



ALCESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL RECORD.

PRICE—SIXPENCE

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ALCESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL RECORD.

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EDITORIAL.

Another Summer Term has all but slipped away. Another school year draws to a close. How all too quickly the happy days pass by! One day we are looking forward to the cricket matches, the tennis, and the pleasures of the summer season, the next it seems that we are looking back upon them all, wondering at the speed with which the time has flown. Much has been crowded into the past eleven weeks. A glorious June favoured our cricket and tennis, and every play time from early morn till night one might hear the pleasant smack as bat met ball, whilst the poor tennis courts grew brown and bare beneath the tread of indefatigable players. Our Sports Day resumed the festive appearance of former times, and even went a step further and provided a musical accompaniment to the efforts of the runners.

Once more we have enjoyed those pleasant Saturdays in Ragley Park, the friendly rivalry of the cricket field, the tea beneath the shade.

Then there have been the Girls' Tennis Tournament, the struggle for the Championship of Tennis, the Fifth and Fourth match, to say nothing of those serious encounters in which the aspiring player essays to enter a higher sphere by compassing the downfall of one hitherto judged her superior. And some of these occasions carry teas in their train, such teas! Whilst later, it may be, "Ambrosia" is served to cheer the flagging spirits. Ah! happy days, which will be long remembered.

Yet the term has not been all gaiety and freedom

from anxiety. As though to keep us from getting quite above ourselves with surfeit of good things, the Fates have ordained that examinations of serious import shall hold us in their toils. Some have shivered on the music stool in the presence of an awe-inspiring Doctor of Music; others have gone through the ordeal of the London Matriculation, and at the time of writing the seventeen august members of the Sixth and Fifth Forms may be seen daily, with bent heads and looks intent, slaving with pen and paper to satisfy the requirements of a set of ruthless examiners at Oxford. Success attend them, and may we shortly see their names upon the Honours Board!

The close of the School year is naturally the time when the number of those leaving is the largest. If they leave from the top of the School it is generally the case that School days for them are over. One stage in their lives is finished, and probably they are looking forward with interest, curiosity, and possibly some anxiety to what the next may bring. Some regret too there may be—I hope there will be—for surely the measure of our regret when leaving school is also the measure of what we have gained there. For school days are golden days, days of happiness and friendship, days when we form ideals, and are full of high hopes of what the future has in store. The danger is that in the rough and tumble contact with the world, the constant meeting with what is base and selfish, our high ideals become dimmed, and before we realize it we have joined the sordid throng of those whose actions are controlled by selfish motives only. Per-

ceiving this the poet Wordsworth sadly wrote

The youth who daily farther from the east
Must travel, still is Nature's priest,
And by the vision splendid
Is on his way attended.

At length the man perceives it die away,
And fade into the light of common day.

For you who are now leaving, your school can wish no better than that, in spite of all, the visions and ideals of your schooldays may not fade.

A COMEDY OF ERRORS.

Corridors and stairs were thronged with people of ages varying from 16 to 30. Some were nervous and pale, others were grinning at feeble jokes, a few were unruffled, but most tried to affect a careless air of indifference as if waiting for the first paper of the Matriculation Examination were a natural every day occurrence. But quick nervous glances at the big clock belied most of them; five more minutes—and suddenly on the topmost landing there was a lull in the conversation broken by the voice of a thin anxious looking girl "Whatever is litotes and hyperbole? I've quite forgotten so we shall be sure to have something about them." Her companion replied "That girl will tell you, I just heard her telling her friend to pronounce it 'hyperboly' and 'not hyperbole'." The questioner looked mildly round and then approached M.A., much to the latter's alarm for it was she who was guilty of the mispronunciation "Can you?"—but M.A. hastily interrupted with a "Go to that girl, she knows everything." That one was none other than E.G., who was just about to begin a long dissertation on all figures of speech, when the door of the examination room was opened.

The mass moved slowly, and one by one became swallowed in the jaws of that fatal room. And then two people with flushed embarrassed faces, on being refused admittance by the grim old porter, turned about and began to attempt to force their way backwards through the crowd. They struggled down four staircases, the cynosure of all eyes, until they reached the lower regions of the great building. Here ensued a great search in pockets and bags for two small pieces of paper.

Just as the last person had vanished through the door, the two breathless creatures presented themselves before the stern doorkeeper with the unfortunate papers and were allowed to enter the room

where all other candidates sat calm and unruffled. Who should these two be but M.A. and M. F., who had forgotten that the entrance fee receipt had to be produced at the door?

In that room all was hushed and—But who does not know the horrors of the Examination room? Who does not know what it is to sit biting the end of your pen and glaring at the ruthless questions in front of you? To dash nervously from question to question answering a bit of this and a bit of that but lacking the patience to work steadily down the list. And then the aggravation of hearing the pen of the person at your side flying along the paper with a hideous squeak and never stopping for a moment to give you a chance.

Never before has a roof of tiles been studied so minutely (that was all that was visible of the outside world) nor has it been known to be a source of inspiration on such diverse subjects as "The use of tidiness," "Fresh-water fishing," and "the League of Nations." The time quickly passed and more than one anxious face cast a nervous glance at the clock as the last few minutes approached. And then one last look through the papers and out again, to discuss the questions and then to try vainly to forget all about them. And thus the week went steadily on from morning to afternoon.

We were interested to hear after the French paper that 'gazon' can mean 'a canopy of gauze curtains' or 'a counterpane' or 'a gaslight'; they must be synonymous to 'grass' as the dictionary only gives that meaning. Would it not be advisable to provide left-handed candidates with a special room? Watching them write is a fascinating but somewhat dangerous procedure on the part of the other candidates. It would be interesting to have the general opinion of the people in No. 1 room, of the girl who had apparently finished the Latin paper 1½ hours before the time!

It is strange to think that on such "puny strivings" and such comedies as these, the fates of many men and women hang. For matriculation is the permission to stand on the threshold of one's own career. But many of us do not see further than the mere success or failure in passing an examination.

K.M.A.

NIGHTFALL.

Around and above, with a shimmer of gold,
On the tremulous breeze at the coming of night,
Flit my shadowy thoughts, while murky and cold

Grows the garden; the pathway gleams mistily
white
In dimness of twilight. . . . Lone, helpless am I,
For my own soul has left me, has floated more high
To an infinite silence, disturbed by no sigh
Of these desolate earth-winds.

Light, colour, are drowned
In masses of shade stretching boundlessly far
O'er the nebulous chaos, where once was firm
ground.

No comfort is there. But a quivering star
Hanging, caught by the pitiless nets of the night,
In the blackening void, is promise that sight
Shall rejoice yet again at the birth of the light.

M.F.

DREAMS.

Many are the wonders of "dreamland" of which I can only give one remarkable example. In a large class of dreams it is certain that the persons or things seen have been previously well-known to the dreamer, but, perhaps not lately thought of. If, according to the philosophy generally received, such appearances are nothing but the recollected images of the persons or objects seen, they are still wonderful. A beloved and long lost friend suddenly appears in a dream, so like the waking reality that it is impossible to distinguish between the sensations caused by them respectively. This being so we may well speak of such things as "wonders," be the explanation of them what it may. Abercrombie treats of dreams as hallucinations, and in support of his opinion tells of a case, somewhat as follows. "A medical friend having sat up late one evening under considerable anxiety about one of his children who was ill, fell asleep in his chair, and had a frightful dream, in which the prominent figure was an immense baboon. He awoke with the fright, got up instantly and walked to a table in the middle of the room. He was then quite awake, and quite conscious of the articles around him; but close by the wall at the other end of the apartment, he distinctly saw the baboon making the same grimaces which he had seen in his dream. The spectre continued visible for about half-a-minute."

If the dreamer, in this instance, had ever seen a baboon making similar grimaces, the spectre would justly be called a recollected image; but it is still wonderful that such an image should suddenly start into existence, like the living thing itself. If he had never seen a baboon under similar conditions,

but only the picture of one, it is still more wonderful that the picture, after having been forgotten perhaps for years, should in an instant assume the form and substance of a living creature, and in all respects act as alive. Look at such phenomena as we will, they are, to say the least, marvellous. To assume that they easily be explained by the association of ideas, is only to urge one mystery in explanation of another.

The time occupied by a dream is another marvel of dreamland. We read in "The Philosophy of Mystery" "that a gentleman dreamed he had enlisted as a soldier, that he had joined his regiment, that he had deserted, was apprehended, and carried back to his regiment, that he was tried by court-martial, condemned to be shot, and was led out for execution. At the moment of the completion of these ceremonies, the guns of the platoon were fired, and at the report he awoke." It was clear that a loud noise in the adjoining room had both produced the dream and awakened the dreamer almost at the same moment.

E.N.

THE GREATEST THING.

From my study of history what do I consider is the most potent factor in the civilising process of the world? Before answering this question it is necessary to know first of all, exactly what civilisation means and secondly what are the factors which make for civilisation. Civilisation is not simply advance in population, wealth, luxury, but far more, that which lies hid in the derivation of the word—advance in the art of living together in civil society. There are many factors which work together for the civilisation of the world, but they are all so closely connected that often it is very difficult to distinguish one from another. Knowledge and power, these are two of the most important, yet there is one factor still more so—the love of one man for his fellow-men. Knowledge gives man power but these factors do not help in the civilising process of the world unless they are used for the good of humanity.

If prehistoric man be compared with a man of to-day, the effect that civilisation has had on man is clearly shown. Both physically and intellectually they form a distinct contrast; the one is a creature little better than the beasts, while the other is of infinitely finer physique and nobler mind. Gradually, throughout the ages man's intellectual capaci-

ties have developed. His knowledge has increased and this has given him far greater power. Thus man has become civilised, but there is another difference between the savage and civilised man that has risen through the increased love of one man for another. Primitive man lived for himself; this was inevitably so when his main object was to live, for he found he had to struggle for existence. It is doubtful even if he had, in the very beginning, any strong family ties; he certainly had no sense of duty to his neighbour. As primitive man wandered from place to place in search of his daily bread there was no link to bind him to his fellows. The cave-dwellers and the lake-dwellers had, no doubt, their family ties but their social duties were a negligible quantity. As wandering tribes began to settle in villages each man would have a certain amount of social responsibility which would increase as man became more civilised. By the time of the great empires of antiquity man had begun to realise his responsibilities more and more. Then in Greece the power of the city states was due largely to the unity and the social organisation of the citizens. In the Roman Empire citizenship was a far greater thing. Thus as man's knowledge increased the realization of his social responsibilities came to him. Nowadays, the ideal of perfect social unity, of universal fellowship, although not yet fully realized, is a vision which inspires many of the world's most noble citizens.

The relation of man to man is thus of the utmost importance in the civilising process of the world. Man cannot live an isolated life, and it is not right that he should do so. Man has been given many talents, and he must learn to use them for the good of others, and not for mere selfish ends. The object of man's life should be to leave the world a little better than he found it, that is to help in the civilising process of the world. If he fails to do this he fails to fulfil the purpose for which he was created. Man must live for others; he must seek the good of the many, not of the few. In the past it has been those who have worked for the good of humanity who have done most for the advancement of civilisation, and it is those who love their fellow men most who do the best work in the world. Altruism is thus the most potent factor of civilisation, far more potent than mere knowledge and power. All the factors which help towards civilisation must be guided and controlled by the desire for the greatest good of the greatest number, else otherwise they will only hinder the progress of humanity;

as for example excessive power, under the guidance of ambition and the baser passions of man, leads to an aggressive spirit which causes war. This instead of helping on the progress of the world tends to retard progress and hinder civilisation. Christianity is the embodiment of the highest and best ideals of man, and if Christianity has failed in the past to reach the goal of perfect unity towards which all should strive, it is not because Christianity is imperfect or incomplete in itself, but because man's conception of Christianity is imperfect. The ideal of universal fellowship, of a perfect all-embracing and all-pervading social unity is still to be attained; yet if all mankind had this vision before their eyes the lot of humanity would be very much improved. The League of Nations may do something towards this but only if every nation joins the league in the right spirit, with right and noble sentiments excluding all ambitious feelings that might lead to jealousy and rivalry and ultimately to dissension.

Thus civilisation, the art of living together in civil society, is determined by the relations of man to man. Of all the factors which help in the process of civilising the world the love of man for man is the most potent. The man who works for the good of the whole community does not fail to win his reward. He who lives and strives to ameliorate the conditions of others brings happiness to himself. "The way to be comfortable is to make others comfortable; the way to make others comfortable is to appear to love them; the way to appear to love them is to love them in reality."

E.F.G.

A QUESTION.

The darkness has gone,
And the glow
Of the dawn is at hand.
We, who are young, shall we know
How to chant in a morn filled with song
Of the peace, in our land?
Life's first deep taste was blood,
Will it sour the fruit of peace
And universal love?
God! may we young forget
Those years, those years, and let
The nightmare
Of war's hideous bloodshed cease,
And release
Us from care.

M.A.

SWANKY, IV. B.

The other day we heard, quite by accident, that some people consider us swanky. We have since inquired into the matter and have received various complimentary replies. On questioning a member of III. A. we received an answer decidedly in the affirmative—to use her exact expression “not a little coxy.” On further inquiry still, we find that we are “swanky little beasts.” This tribute of course, came from one who probably considered herself our superior. Please observe all these “would be” sarcastic remarks come from our female critics; the male portion we find either indifferent or supercilious. This is also the attitude of the Upper Fourth who, of course, consider themselves entirely free from anything approaching “swank;” though perhaps other people have different opinions on the subject.

This term must have originated we think, from the time when we began to have aspirations towards English Literature. Our apparent enjoyment in our English lessons must have aroused some slight regret at their own deficiencies in this particular branch. Remorse usually gives rise to envy and envy gives rise to remarks in which they try in vain to be scathing. These remarks fail and the originators of them take refuge in some slang term, which, according to their ideas describes the offending object of their envy, whose feelings, for some peculiar reason of their own, they wish to wound.

This is the best explanation we can offer for the graphic adjective which they aver, describes that much abused form IV. B. We are not in the habit of casting aspersions at our near and dear neighbours, we therefore refrain from giving the rather overbearing Upper Fourth and the budding cynics of III. A. the just reprimand they merit for their opprobrious remarks.

M.B.

SPORTS DAY.

The inside show this year was much the same as any other except that the art room was not on show.

The Tomtits, upon whom the fates are inclined to look kindly this season, carried off the ‘Arts and Crafts’ shields.

Included in the list of competitions there were various items entirely strangers to our previous sports days. One of these items was music, an entirely unknown thing in the past. Another new

idea was manuscript writing. The specimens obtained did away with any doubts parents may have fostered as to the shakiness of our system of writing. These doubts were for ever removed, as many confessed and the bad writing of a few delinquents was put down to hereditary reasons.

For those inclined towards needlework there was a range of tea cosies, d’oylies, traycloths, tea aprons, etc. By the way does the originator of these ideas intend setting up an afternoon teashop? It looks rather like it! There were useful articles of every description. Ideas of usefulness seem to differ greatly. The popularity of the home-made toy, it appears, is waning. There were, however, some quite clever and original attempts. Cookery, owing to the release of food supplies was able to hold up its head again after four years degradation. It even revived so far as to produce such luxuries as saugage rolls. The boys scones and cakes were admirable. Some one suggests they shall have a shot at sewing next year—shan’t we have some novel fancy stitches! We shall soon be giving a medal for the most ‘housewify boy.’ I wonder if they would agree. It is much to be doubted. However, the show of Arts and Crafts, even though it was minus the boys sewing attempts, was as successful as any of its predecessors have been on sports days of the past.

RESULTS OF COMPETITIONS.

- Manuscript Writing (sen).—1 M. Farquhar, 2 E. Gander, 3 M. Alison, 4 Bunting i. (Jun).—1 F. Smith, 2 M. Burke, 3 C. Holder, 4 M. Lloyd.
 Home-made Sweets.—1 P. Richardson, 2 G. Rimell, 3 M. Burke, 4 D. Sisam.
 Useful Article (Jun).—1 Bunting ii, 2 M. Sisam, 3 M. Sherwood, 4 S. Burke. (Sen). 1 Finnemore i, 2 M. Burke, 3 E. Farmer, 4 E. Stock.
 D’oyley.—1 D. Ainge, 2 M. Johnson, 3 E. Stock, 4 A. Keegan.
 Song Accompaniment (Jun).—1 J. Wells, 2 B. Wells, 3 M. Lloyd. (Sen).—1 K. Perks, 2 Wilson i, 3 B. Jones, 4 M. Farquhar.
 Polka Accompaniment (Jun).—1 J. Wells, 2 M. Lloyd. (Sen).—1 B. Jones, 2 N. Hill, 3 Wilson i, 4 K. Perks.
 Waltz Accompaniment (Jun).—1 J. Wells, 2 B. Wells, 3 M. Lloyd. (Sen).—1 L. Young, 2 Wilson i, 3 B. Jones, 4 N. Hill.
 Tarts (Jun).—1 E. Brookes, 2 J. Wells, 3 M. Thomas, 4 E. Wilesmith. (Sen).—1 M. Burke, 2 E. Stock, 3 D. Perks, 4 V. Bunting.

Sausage Roll.—1 K. Fenn, 2 G. Rimell, 3 V. Bunting, 4 K. Wilesmith.

Cake. (Boys, Sen).—1 Wilson i, 2 Bunting i, 3 Heard, 4 Finnemore i. (Jun).—1 Anker ii, 2 Bunting iii, 3 Hall, 4 Heath.

Scones. (Boys, Sen).—1 Bunting i, 2 Anker i, 3 Finnemore, 4 Heard. (Jun).—1 Hall, 2 Wilson ii, 3 Heath, 4 Bunting iii.

Scones. (Girls, Sen).—1 G. Horniblow, 2 V. Bunting, 3 N. Hill, 4 W. Beasley. (Jun).—1 N. Ainge, 2 M. Thomas, 3 E. Clarke, 4 J. Wells.

Home-made Toy (Sen).—1 Jones, 2 Finnemore i, 3 M. Burke, 4 Bunting i. (Jun).—1 Gothard, 2 S. Burke, 3 E. Wilesmith, 4 M. Thomas.

Sandwich Cake (Sen).—1 M. Farquhar, 2 E. Fourt, 3 V. Bunting, 4 D. Winnett. (Jun).—1 G. Rimell, 2 M. Burke, 3 D. Perks, 4 L. Heath.

Biscuits (Sen).—1 E. Fourt, 2 M. Johnson, 3 G. Rimell, 4 K. Perks. (Jun).—1 G. Edkins, 2 J. Wells, 3 E. Clarke, 4 B. Wells.

Cold Sweet (Sen).—1 E. Gander, 2 Bunting i, 3 M. Johnson, 4 Bomford i. (Jun).—1 D. Ainge, 2 M. Lunn, 3 J. Wells, 4 M. Sisam.

Tray Cloth.—1 K. Perks, 2 V. Bunting, 3 M. Johnson, 4 N. Hill.

Tea Apron (Jun).—1 M. Burke, 2 Ella Stock, 3 N. Hill, 4 P. Shrimpton. (Sen).—1 K. Fenn, 2 V. Bunting, 3 F. Andrews, 4 D. Perks.

Tea Cosy.—1 M. Burke, 2 G. Horniblow, 3 K. Perks, 4 B. Jones.

For the Arts and Crafts Shield the marks obtained by the sides were:—"Tomtits" 648, "Brownies" 497, "Jackals" 443. The highest individual scores were:—M. Burke 103, J. Wells 102, V. Bunting 68, K. Perks 68.

The days on which our Sports have fallen in the past have never been ideal, though, strange to say, we have never had a wet one. This year the day fixed upon was June 19th, and sure enough it was only just fine. On these occasions it might be an advantage to be intimate with that mercurial fellow, the Clerk of the Weather, but still, when asked for a fine day, he might perhaps reply with humidity rather than humility, and so disappoint us after all. One thing seems certain, be the weather good or bad, the Sports are held.

The course was gaily decorated with streamers and in more senses than one there was much "bunting" in evidence.

Unity of purpose was noticeable throughout—the very catering being done "Co-operatively."

Turning to the Sports proper, the events were run off with clockwork regularity, there being none of those annoying intervals so common in public sports. The whole arrangements may be truly said to have been stamped with the "hall-mark."

All the events were interesting, and much amusement was caused during the Obstacle Race when Heard literally "got the sack," as also when the competitors were seen wriggling their way under the tarpaulin. Other attractive events were the Hurdle and Relay Races. The High and Pole Jumping, which concluded the programme, were watched with the keenest interest by the spectators.

A new and pleasing feature of the proceedings was the presence of the Alcester Town Band, which provided selections at intervals throughout the afternoon.

After an interval of half-an-hour, during which the marks were being added up and visitors were taking tea on the boys' playground, the company again assembled on the field, with the three sides Tomtits, Jackals, and Brownies drawn up in the centre, to hear the results announced. Mr. Wells gave a short address in which he brought up the question of giving prizes, and proposed a system of medals in the place of these. As one of the competitors I thoroughly agree with him, and feel sure I voice the opinion of all the rest when I say that we need no other incentive to induce us to do our best, than the desire that our side should win the shield.

The results when announced were as follows—Winners of the Sports Shield—The Tomtits. Winner of the Sports Cup—W. Heard (Tomtit).

Heard is to be heartily congratulated upon a fine performance in winning the Cup for the third time in succession.

The Arts and Crafts Shield was also won by the Tomtits, so that it may truly be said to have been their day.

After the presentation of the Shields and Cup by Mrs. Bunting, the Town Band played the National Anthem and a successful afternoon's proceedings terminated.

Our sincere thanks are due to Mrs. Bunting for making the presentations, also to Dr. R. H. Spencer, Rev. J. C. Paterson Morgan, Mr. G. Haines, and Dr. B. S. Browne for their assistance on the field.

SPORTS RESULTS.

Throwing Cricket Ball (12-14).—1 Bunting iii, (60 yds. 2 ft.), 2 Bunting ii, 3 Betteridge.

Throwing Cricket Ball (over 14).—1 Matthews

(75 yds. 1 ft.), 2 Bunting i, 3 Anker.
 Cross Country Race (12-14).—1 Betteridge, 2 Jeffcoat, 3 Heath, 4 Baylis ii.
 Cross Country Race (over 14).—1 Heard, 2 Wilson i, 3 Bunting i, 4 Finnemore i.
 Long Jump (12-14).—1 Sisam (13 ft. 7 in.), 2 Bomford ii.
 Long Jump (over 14).—1 Anker i, (16 ft. 9 ins.) 2 Nicklin.
 Mile Race.—1 Heard, 2 Wilson, 3 Jones, 4 Matthews.
 Quarter-mile (over 14).—1 Heard, 2 Matthews, 3 Anker i, 4 Mander i.
 100 Yards (12-14).—1 Gauld i, 2 Holder, 3 Sisam i, 4 Wilson ii.
 Egg and Spoon (under 12) 1 Baylis ii, 2 Andrews, 3 Gothard, 4 Buggins.
 100 Yards (over 14).—1 Nicklin, 2 Bunting i, 3 Matthews, 4 Heard.
 Egg and Spoon (Girls).—1 B. Rimell, 2 H. Morgan, 3 J. Evans, 4 J. Finnemore.
 220 Yards (12-14).—1 Betteridge, 2 Sisam i, 3 Heath, Bunting iii.
 Half-mile (over 14).—1 Heard, 2 Wilson i, 3 Jones.
 100 Yards (under 12).—1 Clark, 2 Baylis ii, 3 Finnemore ii, 4 Blunn i.
 Football Race (12-14).—1 Sisam i, 2 Bunting ii, 3 Bunting iii, 4 Betteridge.
 Slow Bicycle Race.—1 Hewitt, 2 Bowen, 3 Betteridge, 4 Bunting iii.
 Half-mile (12-14).—1 Anker ii, 2 Betteridge, 3 Bunting ii, 4 Wilson ii.
 Obstacle Race (under 12).—1 Morris ii, 2 Finnemore ii, 3 Baylis ii, 4 Blackwood.
 Tug-of-war.—1 "Brownies," 2 "Tomtits."
 Hurdle Race (over 14).—1 Nicklin, 2 Matthews, 3 Bunting i, 4 Heard.
 Sack Race (under 12).—1 Andrews, 2 Allwood, 3 Clark, 4 Finnemore ii.
 100 Yards (Girls).—1 B. Rimell, 2 M. Bomford, 3 R. Williams, 4 G. Ainge.
 Obstacle Race (12-14).—1 Sisam i, 2 Anker ii, 3 Heath, 4 Bunting iii.
 Three-legged Race (under 12).—1 Clark and Earp, 2 Smith and Morris ii.
 Consolation Race (12-14).—Bunting ii, 2 Betteridge, 3 Bunting iii, 4 Sisam i.
 Football Race (over 14).—1 Matthews, 2 Bunting i, 3 Mander i, 4 Anker i.
 High Jump (12-14).—1 Bunting iii, 2 Betteridge, 3 Bunting ii.
 Obstacle Race (over 14).—1 Heard, 2 Bunting i, 3 Finnemore, 4 Matthews.

Three-legged Race (Girls).—1 M. Williams and B. Rimell, 2 G. Ainge and R. Williams.
 Hurdle Race (12-14).—1 Betteridge, 2 Bunting iii, 3 Anker ii, 4 Sisam i.
 Crab Walk (over 14).—1 Nicklin, 2 Heard, 3 Jones, Anker i.
 Consolation Race (over 14).—1 Matthews, 2 Anker i, 3 Nicklin, 4 Jones.
 Relay Race.—1 "Jackals." 2 "Brownies," 3 "Tomtits."
 Crab Walk (12-14).—1 Sisam i, 2 Bunting iii, 3 Anker ii, 4 Formston.
 High Jump (over 14).—1 Nicklin, 2 Bunting i, 3 Anker i, 4 Heard.
 Pole Jump.—1 Heard, 2 Anker i, 3 Jones, 4 Mander.

Medals have been awarded for Sports and Competitions as follows.

For Sports: Gold Medal. Heard.
 Silver Medals. Heard, Bunting i, Matthews, Nicklin, Betteridge, Anker ii.
 Bronze Medals. Anker i, Wilson i, Sisam i, Bunting ii, Bunting iii, Gauld i, Clark, Jeffcoat.
 For Competitions: Silver Medals (over 80 marks). M. Burke, J. W. Wells.
 Bronze Medals (50-79 marks). Bunting i, M. Johnson, V. Bunting, N. Hill, B. Jones, K. Perks, Wilson i.

It is hoped that the medals will be available for distribution at the beginning of the Autumn Term.

THE GAY TOMTITS.

(With apologies to W. S. Gilbert).

The Tomtits sit at the top of the tree,
 And they are as gay as gay can be,
 For they've cup and shields—but will they own
 Just a wee bit conceited they have grown?
 Now the Brownies perch on a branch below,
 And I fear it is clear they feel the blow.
 To the trophies three of the Team Tomtit
 With a sigh ev'ry eye turns as they sit.
 They sigh "O dear!"
 They sigh "ah me!"
 While the Tomtits sit at the top of the tree.
 And they hope next year
 They'll be quits—quits—quits,
 With the now victorious gay Tomtits.

A BROWNIE.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

We heartily congratulate the following upon their recent successes :

Madge V. Alison, B.A. Honours, English Literature, Part I, Liverpool University.

Dorothy Taylor, Intermediate Examination of the Northern Universities.

A. Pearl Jephcott, Intermediate Examination of the University of Wales.

The Musical Society are to be congratulated upon having attained the object they had in view when they organised the Fancy Fair. A grand piano by Messrs. Collard and Collard has been purchased, and it may now be seen in the Art Room. We understand that the instrument gives the greatest satisfaction, and the members of the Society are keenly looking forward to the help it will give them at their meetings next term.

The numbers in the School have been 153.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

This term we welcome Mr. V. V. Druller, who has joined the Staff in place of Mr. Gibbons.

Really the world is full of surprises! We are informed by E. S. that a biped is an animal with four legs. How would she classify herself?

"*Nous avons deux bouches,*" or so says J.J. of IV A. With so many mouths to feed, no wonder there is a shortage of food!

And that the food shortage may also be held responsible for turning the minds of all of us to household affairs, is exemplified in E.B.'s idea of "the utensil called the Tank, which was invented during the war."

What an affectionate brother A.A. must be, to whom *coeur* and *soeur* are synonymous!

It is suggested that the discoverer of the way of making those delightful pieces of jewellery, "mauve beads," by fusing a potassium salt with borax, should take the idea to Mr. Hall: they would be well received (?)

Is it true that some of us think the making of crystals to be "a more phuss" than other chemical experiments?

"The shortest route travelling from Leeds to Dublin," P.R. tells us, "is via London."

GIRLS' TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

FIRST COURT.—The tennis on Mr. Wells's court was not so interesting as the conversation, and not nearly so exciting as the ice-cream. We suspected that E.S. had the latter in mind when she hurriedly left her astonished partner in the middle of the set, and her blush when she was called back only heightened our suspicions. Could any of the players satisfy the enquiries of one of the staff "Why do they put out their tongues and kick up one leg when they are about to send a hand ball?" and many others were wondering why, as E.G. became more and more dejected and woebegone, her partner V.B. "dimpled" more and more happily. As we watched C. H.'s strenuous drives we thought nothing could be further removed from our conception of a "Baby Angel." Sunshine, companionship, tennis, ice-cream—nothing lacking was there to make it the jolliest tournament we have had.

M.A.

M.F.

SECOND COURT.—The Front Court was devoted to the third division. Cameras played a prominent part in the proceedings. The front was a danger zone for the staff. Any member who attempted to show themselves was immediately 'snapped.' Enthusiastic photographers were continually found walking absent-mindedly backwards on to the court to get a better view of their victim. The balls, we fear suffered much ill-treatment. One enterprising young player even submitted a ball to the indignity of landing in the public road! Much amusement was shown by onlookers at the persistence with which one young lady continued to hit balls which would have been, to quote a member of IIIB, "miles

out.' There were, however, according to two other members of the aforesaid form "some fairly good balls." This remark was made with such an air of condescension I really wonder that the young people were prevailed upon to come and watch mere third-divisioners. Great enjoyment was shown on all faces throughout the afternoon despite the shortcomings in the play and the remarks of IIIB. which must have caused slight discomfort to those at whom they were levelled.

THIRD COURT.—While on the front court everything is proceeding in an orderly and decorous manner, on the back confusion reigns supreme. There is a loud buzz of conversation—by the way, buzz is a mild word, din, is far more suitable—and the scorer almost shouts herself hoarse trying to be heard above it. Balls are flying about everywhere, some trying to vie with the birds, others content to go not quite over the net. The poor unfortunate who sends a ball either over the cycle sheds or into the boys playground is unmercifully bullied by all who are watching and is then sent to fetch it. During the sets a most interesting conversation goes on among the watchers. The chief subject seemed to be the everlasting one—dress, and we note that one of these good people thinks "that muslin is so much nicer than pique." One of the scorers seemed to find great difficulty in fixing her mind on the game to judge from her answer to a question as to the score, it was, "Oh I don't know, you must begin again." Another scorer seemed rather perturbed because she had forgotten the time to change over, when suddenly one of the spectators had a most brilliant idea, "Why not play five games and not count one" she suggested. We are inclined to think that there would have been considerable difficulty when it came to deciding which game was to be left out if this suggestion had been followed. Some of the players looked rather nervous; was it the fact of having so many people watching, or was it because they were afraid of what their partners would say if they lost the point? From what we have seen this year of the playing on the back court, we expect to have most brilliant players for the front court next year.

The winning couples in the three divisions were:
1st Division: W. Beasley and M. Farquhar.
2nd Division: E. Fourt and M. Sisam.
3rd Division: E. Farmer and B. Thomas.

E.F.

LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP (GIRLS).

The matches played in the Tournament to decide this championship provided some excellent games, and the play of Gwendolen Rimell, Maisie Johnson and Dorothy Winnett in the semi-finals and final deserve special mention. In the final match Dorothy Winnett beat Maisie Johnson 7-9, 6-4, 6-3 and so became champion this year. She will be awarded the gold brooch.

The racquet presented annually by Mrs. Wells to the girl who shows most improvement in lawn tennis has been awarded to Kathleen Perks.

CRICKET, 1919.

On May 17th, A.G.S. visited Redditch Secondary School.

A.G.S.

Bunting i, c and b Matthews.....	0
Anker i, not out	13
Bunting ii, c , b Matthews.....	4
Finnemore i, c , b Sprason	1
Wilson i, c , b Matthews.....	1
Mander i, b Sprason	1
Bunting iii, c , b Sprason	0
Jones, b Matthews	0
Sisam, c , b Sprason.....	1
Anker ii, c , b Sprason.....	0
Clarke, st., b Matthews	0
Extras	1
Total	22

Redditch Secondary School, 51.

On May 24th, A.G.S. played Rev. Morgan's XI at Ragley.

Rev. Morgan's XI.

F. M. Sisam, b Anker i	16
Earp, c , b Mr. Wells	2
Bomford, c Mr. Wells, b Bunting i	53
Cleasby, c , b Anker i	5
C. Bunting, b Mr. Hall	4
J. Spencer, c , b Mr. Hall	1
S. Horne, c , b Bunting i	8

J. C. P. Morgan, not out	5	Anker i, b E. Key	0
A. Spencer, b Mr. Hall	2	Bunting i, b E. Key	14
G. Knight, b Bunting i	1	Mr. Hall, b E. Key	24
S Wright, c Bunting iii, b Anker i	18	Mr. Ankcorn, b Richardson	0
Extras	11	Mr. Druller, b E. Key	0
		Bunting ii, b E. Key	4
Total	126	Wilson i, not out	2
		Bunting iii, b E. Key	0
		Extras	3

A.G.S.

Mr. Wells, run out	27		
Mr. Ankcorn, c Morgan, b J. Spencer	7	Total	61
Anker i, c Bunting, b J. Spencer	4		
Mr. Hall, c Morgan, b Sisam	59		
Bunting i, c Bomford, b J. Spencer	12		
Bunting ii, c Bunting, b Spencer	16		
Mr. Druller, b G. Knight	4		
Wilson i, c Bunting, b J. Spencer	1		
Finnemore i, run out	0		
Mander i, not out	1		
Bunting iii, b Knight	2		
Extras	16		
Total	149		

Bowling.—Mr. Wells 1 for 15, Mr. Hall 3 for 12, Bunting i 3 for 10, Anker i 3 for 13.

A.G.S. met the Old Boys at Ragley on June 7th.
A.G.S.

Heard, b Heighway	1	Anker i, b Sprason	12
Anker i, b Heighway	9	Bunting i, c , b Sprason	32
Bunting i, b Heighway	16	Heard, b Parker	0
Bunting ii, l.b.w. b Heighway	0	Finnemore i, run out	1
Mr. Ankcorn, b E. Corbett	2	Wilson i, b Sprason	0
Finnemore i, c Corbett, b Perks	5	Bunting ii, c , b Sprason	0
Mr. Hall, c Richardson, b Heighway	18	Mander i, c Moore, b Sprason	1
Mander i, b Heighway	0	Bunting iii, c , b Sprason	0
Mr. Wells, not out	52	Anker ii, c , b Matthews	0
Bunting iii, c , b Perks	2	Clarke, b Sprason	0
Anker ii, c Perks, b Corbett	3	Mander ii, not out	1
Clark, b Heighway	7	Extras	4
Extras	25		
Total	140	Total	51

Old Boys, 77.

A.G.S. visited Inkberrow on June 14th.

A.G.S.

Mr. Wells, c , b E. Key	14	Anker i, b Mr. Hill	3
Heard, c Reynolds, b Hewlett	0	Mr. Ankcorn, l.b.w. b Court	16
Finnemore, b E. Key	0	Bunting i, c Parker, b Mr. Hill	15
		Finnemore i, c Parker, b Court	6
		Mr. Hall, b Court	5
		Mr. Wells, c Head, b Court	4
		Heard, run out	6
		Bunting ii, b Head	10
		Mr. Druller, b Heighway	0
		Wilson i, b Swindon	11

Inkberrow, 86.

Bowling.—Mr. Wells 3 for 26, Mr. Hall 0 for 17, Bunting i 6 for 31, Anker i 1 for 10.

Played on June 21st at Ragley.

A.G.S.

Anker i, b Sprason	12
Bunting i, c , b Sprason	32
Heard, b Parker	0
Finnemore i, run out	1
Wilson i, b Sprason	0
Bunting ii, c , b Sprason	0
Mander i, c Moore, b Sprason	1
Bunting iii, c , b Sprason	0
Anker ii, c , b Matthews	0
Clarke, b Sprason	0
Mander ii, not out	1
Extras	4

Total 51

Redditch Secondary School, 52.

In a thrilling finish to a good game the School thus lost by one run.

Bowling.—Bunting i 5 for 20, Anker i 5 for 27.

On June 25th, Coughton 1st Eleven were visited.

A.G.S.

Anker i, b Mr. Hill	3
Mr. Ankcorn, l.b.w. b Court	16
Bunting i, c Parker, b Mr. Hill	15
Finnemore i, c Parker, b Court	6
Mr. Hall, b Court	5
Mr. Wells, c Head, b Court	4
Heard, run out	6
Bunting ii, b Head	10
Mr. Druller, b Heighway	0
Wilson i, b Swindon	11

Mander i, not out	8
Extras	8
Total	92

Coughton, 38.

Bowling.—Mr. Wells 6 for 26, Mr. Hall 3 for 12.

On June 28th, we visited Stratford Grammar School.

A.G.S.	
Heard, c Halford, b Knill	17
Bunting i, b Knill	18
Anker i, c Thompson, b Hitching.....	4
Bunting ii, c Halford, b Hitching.....	1
Wilson i, b Knill.....	4
Mander i, b Hitching	4
Bunting iii, c Cooper, b Knill	6
Anker ii, c and b Knill	2
Mander ii, b Knight	2
Clarke, c Thompson, b Hitching	8
Wilson ii, not out	0
Extras	2
Total	68

Stratford Grammar School, 55.

Bowling.—Bunting i 6 for 27, Anker i 4 for 28.

At Ragley on July 9th,

A.G.S.	
Mr. Wells, b Adams	2
Anker i, b Adams.....	0
Bunting i, c Hodgkinson, b Adams	18
Mr. Ankcorn, b Adams	0
Mr. Hall, c Crystal, b Spencer	2
Heard, c Hodgkinson, b Spencer	3
Mr. Druller, b Adams.....	0
Bunting ii, c Morgan, b Knight.....	0
Wilson i, b Rev. Morgan	0
Mander i, not out	4
Bunting iii, b Rev. Morgan	0
Extras	2
Total	31

Mr. H. T. Hodgkinson's XI. Total (for 9 wickets) 117.

Bowling.—Mr. Wells 0 for 25, Mr. Hall 2 for 22, Bunting i 3 for 20, Anker i 0 for 16, Mander i 0 for 11, Heard 2 for 14.

On July 12th, A.G.S. played Inkberrow at Ragley.

A.G.S.	
Mr. Ankcorn, b Moorhouse	5
Anker i, c Jones, b Clarke	12
Bunting i, c and b Hewlet,	27
Heard, c Reynolds, b Clarke.....	2
Mr. Hall, c Richardson, b Hewlet	15
Bunting ii, b Tew	3
Wilson i, b Tew	0
Mr. Druller, c Moorhouse, b Hewlet	0
Finnemore i, c Reynolds, b Clarke	4
Mander i, c Perks, b Hewlet.....	3
Jones, not out	0
Mander ii, run out	0
Extras	9
Total	80

Bowling.—Mr. Hall 3 for 18, Bunting i 6 for 20.

Batting Averages.

	No. of Inns.	Times not out.	Total Runs.	Average.
Mr. Wells	5	1	99	24'75
Mr. Hall	6	0	123	20'5
Bunting i	9	0	152	16'9
Anker i	9	1	57	7.1

The bat, which was again kindly offered this year by Mr. Cleasby for the boy who showed most improvement in cricket, has been awarded to Anker i.